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Thursday Afternoon, Sept 3d, 1891

The Town Commissioners are making a good record in the way of improvements. Although the duties of the office are sometimes very unpleasant, the commissioners get on remarkably well. The Board is composed of some of the best men of the town who should be encouraged in their work by the earnest support of the people.

Mr. COLENS FERGUSON is the man who should be appointed Clerk of the Orphans' Court. He is known as a thoroughly honest and conscientious man and one who shirked no duty while representing this county in the Senate. He is a good business man and would perform the duties of the office in a manner acceptable to the people. Governor Reynolds has made no appointment during his term which would give greater satisfaction. Mr. Ferguson has given valuable time as a representative of the people and at the same time proved his ability. We mention with pleasure the fact that he is a candidate and hope the Governor will be able to appoint him; by so doing we will satisfy the desire of the people of this county.

The Democrats dislike to hear the truth concerning the benefits the farmers derive through the McKinley tariff act, even when it is told them by so good a granger as Mr. Mortimer Whitehead, the national lecturer of the Grange. The facts are there, however, and Democratic newspapers abuse of Mr. Whitehead will not change them. —Morning News.

In the first place no Democratic newspaper in this State wishes to abuse Mr. Mortimer Whitehead. If he thinks he is right let him go on with his high-tariff pranks. The only important statement made by Mr. Whitehead concerning the tariff, so far as it interests the farmer, was in relation to the increase in the crop of certain cereals and that is easily explained. A difference of ten million bushels in the corn or wheat crop of the United States would not be attributed to the tariff laws.

Such being the case why should the increase in the rye or barley crop be credited to the influence of the tariff? Mr. Whitehead may be sincere, he may even believe that he is doing the farmers a kindness in this matter, but in reality he is as far away from the truth on the tariff question as he is on the silver question. Germany has consented to allow the importation of American pork and Mr. Whitehead could with equal justice credit this to the benevolent influence of the McKinley Act. The fact is that Germany needs American pork and, consequently has placed herself in a position to get it. There are natural and unchangeable laws which govern the trade of the world, and the country breaking those laws will certainly suffer. It is because this country is comparatively new and has always had a great area of land open for settlement that we have not suffered more intensely from the unjust tariff laws.

The meeting of Alliance men in this State next Tuesday will be important because it shows the length to which the farmer is driven in his effort to get into a position which will enable him to make his needs known and his strength felt. In all the means taken by the government of this county for the protection of industries, the farmer has been regarded as not worthy of consideration. The farmer has steadily lost ground since the war, and is to-day in a precarious condition.

It made a market for the entire product of the bonanza silver mines, inflated the paper currency at the rate of \$80,000,000 a year, and yet prates of the danger from silver and boasts of its devotion to "honest money."

It has made reciprocity treaties extending the market of protected American monopolies by inducing foreign nations to tax themselves, without making cheaper one article for American consumers.

It "did" New York out of the World's Fair, and defrauded it in a bungus census, as a penalty for being a Democratic city.

Oh! yes—the Republican party "does things!"—World.

Here it is Again.

Lo! the poor grower! Now that the railroad is complying with his demands for more cars, the commissioner threatens to sap the life and substance from the small returns from his peach shipments. For peaches shipped through to Boston, in car-load lots, bills have been returned with freight charges of forty-one cents per basket; whereas, replies from the railroad lines over which the fruit passes show that the actual freight charges are but twenty-six and one-quarter cents. Such outrageous proportions. In this movement there are signs of a national uprising against corporate greed. Whenever the people are overburdened they are sure to make it known in some unmistakable manner.

The peach season of 1891 is nearly ended and no relief from exorbitant freight charges has been obtained. The Inter-state Commerce Commission heard the case brought by the State Grangers and failed to render a decision which could be made use of.

This is probably the last peach crop in which the people of this county will have an interest, but other parts of the State and Peninsula will suffer again next year if something is not done.

That discrimination has been practiced is an undoubted fact and it is equally apparent that the charges on fruit have been grossly unjust. It is

the Company

compet-

ing.

NOT A LEW NATTICK.

September 1st, 1891.

September

# The Transcript

Thursday Afternoon, Sept 3d, 1891

## A PLEA FOR SONG BIRDS.

STRONG ARGUMENT AGAINST KILLING THEM FOR THEIR PLUMAGE.

Some years ago, at a ball in Paris, there appeared a woman wearing on her head a small dead bird. She desired to distinguish herself by a new kind of adornment, not caring how it was procured. Why are so many Christian women following her example to-day?

Henry Ward Beecher said: "The slaughter of the birds that is going on is such as ought to arrest the attention of every Christian woman who decorates herself with the skins." Can the compassionate spirit of Christ have touched the hearts of those women who go constantly to hear His doctrine preached and yet refuse to make so small an effort to be in accord with it as the simple avoidance of participation in this heartless and destructive fashion would involve?

The report of the American Ornithological society says: "From a carefully gathered statistics it is proved that on the most moderate calculation 5,000,000 song birds are annually required to fill the demand for the ornamentation of the hats of American women. The slaughter is not confined to song birds; everything that wears feathers is a target for the bird butcher. In a single season 40,000 terns were killed at Cape Cod for exportation, and the swamps and marshes of Florida have been depopulated of their gulls and herons. In one month 1,000,000 bobolinks have been killed near Philadelphia, and from a single Long Island village 70,000 song birds were supplied in a short time to New York dealers for millinery purposes."

In some places when wings only are sought, the hunters, grow brutal by the practice of their horrid trade, shoot the birds down and tear off the wings of numbers while they are yet alive.

It is known that the bird hunter of Florida kill the birds while they are rearing their young—because of the greater beauty of the plumage at that season—and leave the little ones to starve to death. One who went through the hunting grounds speaks of the horror it gave him to hear the pitiful screams of these dying little birds.

Why does all this slaughter go on? In order that women may decorate themselves and win admiration. But suppose they did not win admiration? Many people look upon this cruel and frivolous fashion with unmixed horror, and upon the women who continue it with deep, if silent, disapproval. Now that so much is known concerning this kind of adornment the woman who adopts it must expect to win something which is very far from admiration. Mrs. Olive Thorne Miller says: "The beautiful warblers flitting incessantly about the trees are working almost every instant in our interest, yet, we, some of us, wear their little dead bodies in clusters and wreaths and the insects increase and multiply apace."

The rose-breasted grosbeak works more in drowsily than any bird carries and never strikes for shorter hours, and what is he doing? Carefully examining the potato plants and picking off that pest, the potato beetle. Unfortunately for us that for him, he has a beautiful coat; he is wanted to adorn somebody's hat; his life of usefulness is cut short, and the bugs have free sweep with the "potatoes." Again she says: "Pages have been written and published about the desolation of the former bird-haunted spots; every traveler who observes, every collector who goes out to secure the last lingering individual, reports the alarming decrease of birds and the terrific and uncheckable increase of their prey, the insect which shall yet devour the world and the inhabitants thereof."

Professor Edward E. Fish, of Buffalo, in speaking of the great use of birds to man, says: "It is estimated that they save to agricultural purposes annually over one hundred million dollars in the United States. In many sections insect life is still so abundant as to make human life almost endurable. In other sections it is only kept in check by birds, and there is no place in which, were this check removed, it would not greatly hold the balance of power. The number of flies, mosquitoes, gnats and other small insects destroyed in one day in a small area by warblers, swallows and flycatchers alone is beyond computation. From daylight until dark, all through the summer months, these birds wage incessant war on the enemies of man."

A great French authority (Michel) has stated that there could be no vegetation, and therefore no life, if the birds were all destroyed. Is this to be put to a practical test for fashion's sake?

I ask if those who aid and abet the folly of destroying insectivorous birds and encourage the attendant cruelty are not giving evidence of both lack of feeling and good sense? The woman who decorates herself with the body of a bird whose little heart was wrung with anguish when it was torn from its helpless nestlings, and they

were to her only logical when she thought of the love outraged.

Only the most callous and brutal with

the most callous and brutal de-

coration can be found in this

foolishness.

It is the slow torture of

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